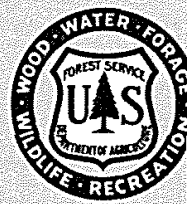


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CONSUMPTION AND HARVEST OF VENEER LOGS IN THECENTRAL STATES--1963

This is the fourth in a series of reports describing trends in the consumption and harvest of veneer logs in the Central States. Previous reports were published for 1956, 1958, and 1960. The information presented here was derived from a canvass of all known veneer mills in the United States that process veneer logs and bolts grown in the Central States region.

This report is published so that industry people, forest managers, researchers, and others can stay abreast of changes in the utilization of one of the region's most valuable forest products. The statistics presented here can help in planning the expansion of forest-based industries and managing our forest resources to best meet the demands of present and future generations.

Veneer-log consumption in the Central States has remained fairly stable since 1956, ranging from a low of 54.0 million board feet in 1958 to a high of 59.8 million board feet in 1960. Consumption for 1963 was 59.7 million board feet (table 1).

Forty-Six Mills Active in 1963

About two-thirds of this volume was consumed by 24 mills in the region that produce mainly face and commercial veneer for high-grade plywood panels and furniture stock (fig. 1). The remaining volume was consumed by 22 mills manufacturing lower grade veneer for containers such as crates and baskets. Since 1960, the volume consumed by face and commercial veneer plants increased 12 percent (4.1 million board feet) while container-mill consumption declined 17 percent (-4.1 million board feet).

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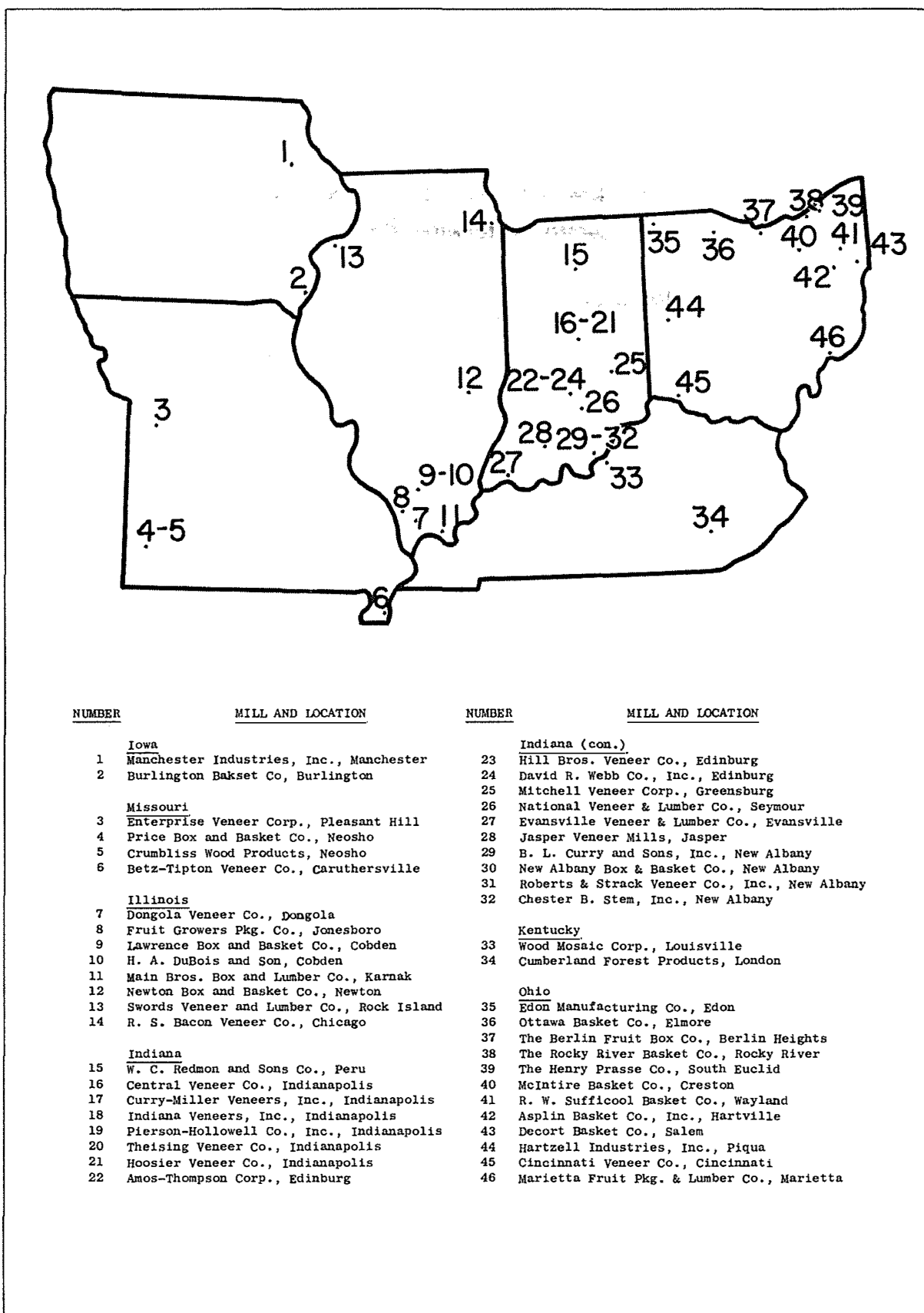


Figure 1.--Location of veneer mills in the Central States
1963.

Table 1.--Veneer logs consumed by Central States mills--1963

(In thousand board feet, International 1/4-inch rule)

	State in which processed						Percent	Percent
	Ohio	Indiana	Illinois	Kentucky	Missouri	Missouri & Iowa ^{1/}	of total	change from 1960
Source of logs:								
Ohio	4,102	3,659	--	325	--	8,086	13.6	- 25.6
Indiana	364	14,915	770	325	--	16,374	27.5	+ 31.9
Illinois	62	1,854	6,221	--	163	8,300	13.9	- 19.5
Kentucky	92	4,389	26	1,210	2,299	8,016	13.4	+ 32.1
Missouri	--	1,460	719	--	3,446	5,625	9.4	- 15.0
Iowa	--	2,800	1,215	--	1,485	5,500	9.2	+ 5.0
Outside CS	380	5,853	284	600	647	7,764	13.0	- 5.8
Total	5,000	34,930	9,235	2,460	8,040	59,665	100.0	- 0.2
Percent of total	8.4	58.5	15.5	4.1	13.5	100.0		
Percent change from 1960	-25.8	+ 8.1	- 4.6	-13.7	- 1.4	- 0.2		

Species:

Red oak	11	743	17	100	137	1,008	1.7	- 51.7
White oak	22	2,283	--	--	18	2,323	3.9	- 41.2
Hickory	118	1,179	15	--	392	1,704	2.8	+434.2
Sycamore	207	632	615	35	707	2,196	3.7	- 16.7
Elm	505	175	42	--	753	1,475	2.5	- 33.1
Gum	62	877	350	50	474	1,813	3.0	+ 20.5
Yellow-poplar	450	2,606	193	520	--	3,769	6.3	+ 11.8
Hard maple	796	2,798	--	85	291	3,970	6.7	- 3.5
Soft maple	257	187	74	--	587	1,105	1.9	+ 28.3
Cherry	--	2,553	11	--	110	2,674	4.5	- 23.8
Walnut	1,556	17,715	2,426	1,670	1,057	24,424	40.9	+ 21.6
Beech	729	258	--	--	--	987	1.6	- 25.3
Cottonwood	189	1,155	5,263	--	2,218	8,825	14.8	- 16.9
Butternut	--	780	47	--	--	827	1.4	+ 72.3
Other	98	989	182	--	1,296	2,565	4.3	- 19.1
Total	5,000	34,930	9,235	2,460	8,040	59,665	100.0	

^{1/} Combined to avoid disclosure of individual mill data.Indiana's Consumption Lead Widens

Indiana has led the Central States in veneer-log consumption since the survey began and this lead has increased since 1960. The Hoosier State consumed 59 percent of the regional total in 1963. During the 3 years Indiana's consumption increased by 8 percent while consumption in second-ranked Illinois decreased 5 percent. Missouri, the only state beside Indiana to show a gain over 1960, moved into third place ahead of Ohio.

Walnut Consumption Reaches a New High

The region's veneer mills used more than 24 million board feet of walnut logs in 1963--22 percent more than in 1960. Walnut accounted for 41 percent of the region's consumption in 1963, compared with 34 percent in 1960. About three-fourths of this walnut went to Indiana mills.

Table 2.--Use of Central States veneer

Source	Destination	Volume in thousand board feet							Hemlock
		Red Oak	White oak	Hickory	Sycamore	Elm	Gum	Yellow-poplar	
Ohio	Ohio	11	22	118	207	505	62	420	
	Other CS	228	495	2	--	9	--	27	
	Outside CS	47	36	11	--	--	--	240	
	Total	286	553	131	207	514	62	687	
Indiana	Indiana	203	1,343	481	568	144	736	1,830	
	Other CS	10	--	--	16	--	--	3	
	Outside CS	4	--	--	--	--	--	26	
	Total	217	1,343	481	584	144	736	1,859	
Illinois	Illinois	--	--	10	581	22	255	148	
	Other CS	16	15	136	--	--	--	3	
	Outside CS	92	--	--	96	--	48	96	
	Total	108	15	146	677	22	303	247	
Kentucky	Kentucky	--	--	--	35	--	50	520	
	Other CS	111	291	265	284	242	366	752	
	Outside CS	1	1	125	244	--	495	2,208	
	Total	112	292	390	563	242	911	3,480	
Missouri	Missouri	12	--	157	412	509	254	--	
	Other CS	--	--	--	18	--	90	36	
	Outside CS	7	--	--	95	--	63	96	
	Total	19	--	157	525	509	407	132	
Iowa	Iowa	117	18	--	--	23	--	--	
	Other CS	--	--	--	--	10	--	--	
	Outside CS	434	7	--	38	1	--	46	
	Total	551	25	--	38	34	--	46	
All CS	CS	708	2,184	1,169	2,121	1,464	1,813	3,739	2,
	Outside CS	585	44	136	473	1	606	2,712	
	Total	1,293	2,228	1,305	2,594	1,465	2,419	6,451	2,
Percent of total		2.2	3.9	2.3	4.5	2.5	4.2	11.2	
Percent change from 1960		-53.2	-36.4	+310.4	-18.0	-54.5	-0.7	+60.0	

Cottonwood consumption decreased about 17 percent but this species still remained second in importance to walnut, accounting for 15 percent of the total volume utilized by Central States mills in 1963. Most of the cottonwood went to mills in Illinois, mainly for container veneer.

International 1/4-inch rule								Percent	Percent
Apple	Cherry	Walnut	Beech	Cotton-wood	Butter-nut	Other	Total	of total	change from 1960
257	--	940	729	189	--	98	4,102	7.1	- 26.2
--	19	3,122	--	--	--	7	3,984	6.9	- 24.9
--	--	24	--	--	--	5	363	.6	+ 32.0
257	19	4,086	729	189	--	110	8,449	14.6	- 24.1
166	193	5,766	204	1,045	348	754	14,915	25.9	+ 37.7
--	--	789	--	585	--	--	1,459	2.5	- 7.9
--	--	--	--	--	--	3	33	.1	+ --
166	193	6,555	204	1,630	348	757	16,407	28.5	+ 32.1
56	6	507	--	4,507	15	114	6,221	10.8	+ 8.7
--	3	1,655	28	163	45	15	2,079	3.6	- 54.7
245	--	--	--	255	--	14	902	1.6	- 37.8
301	9	2,162	28	4,925	60	143	9,202	16.0	- 21.8
--	--	520	--	--	--	--	1,210	2.1	- 27.5
241	93	2,063	27	1,319	93	329	6,806	11.8	+ 54.7
9	--	49	--	--	--	22	3,173	5.5	+ 61.4
250	93	2,632	27	1,319	93	351	11,189	19.4	+ 39.3
254	40	618	--	681	--	509	3,446	6.0	- 5.9
18	--	1,821	--	161	--	35	2,179	3.8	- 26.3
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	261	.4	+ 29.2
272	40	2,439	--	842	--	544	5,886	10.2	- 13.7
113	--	27	--	--	--	567	1,156	2.0	- 33.9
--	22	4,206	--	--	105	1	4,344	7.5	+ 24.4
110	--	106	--	71	--	186	1,045	1.8	- 71.8
223	22	4,339	--	71	105	754	6,545	11.3	- 26.9
105	376	22,034	988	8,650	606	2,429	51,901	90.0	+ 0.8
364	--	179	--	326	--	230	5,777	10.0	- 24.0
469	376	22,213	988	8,976	606	2,659	57,678	100.0	- 2.4
2.5	.6	38.5	1.7	15.6	1.1	4.6	100.0		
-9.6	-44.6	+19.8	-25.2	-23.8	+26.8	-0.4	-2.4		

Only Half of Mill Consumption is Harvested from Home State

Because of their high value, veneer logs can be transported greater distances to processing plants than most other rough forest products. A large volume of veneer logs moves among, into, and out of the Central States each year (fig. 2).

During 1963, the region's mills obtained only 52 percent of their veneer logs from the state in which they are located. This figure is 3 percent higher than in 1960. Another 35 percent was shipped in from other Central States and the remaining 13 percent came from outside the region. All the veneer logs used by Iowa mills came from Iowa and 82 percent of the logs used in Ohio mills came from Ohio, but Indiana mills obtained 57 percent of their wood needs from other states and foreign countries.

About 7.8 million board feet of veneer logs were shipped into the region--a 6 percent decline since 1960. More than 60 percent of this incoming material came from Pennsylvania and Michigan. Indiana mills received three-fourths of the total. Walnut, black cherry, and hard maple accounted for almost 80 percent of this veneer-log inflow.

Harvest of Central States Veneer Logs for Domestic Consumption Down 2 Percent

United States veneer mills used 57.7 million board feet of veneer logs harvested from the Central States during 1963 --2 percent less than in 1960 (table 2). The volume of Central States logs used by Central States mills remained about the same, but the volume sent to mills in states outside the region decreased almost 25 percent to 5.8 million board feet. Almost half the outgoing volume was yellow-poplar and gum cut in Kentucky. Mills in Wisconsin, North Carolina, and Tennessee were the primary recipients of outgoing shipments from the region.

Domestic use of Kentucky veneer logs was up 39 percent from 1960 due to larger shipments to mills outside the State. Domestic use of Indiana veneer logs increased 32 percent because Indiana mills used more home-grown wood.

The harvest of veneer logs for domestic consumers declined in the other four Central States with decreases of more than 20 percent occurring in Illinois, Ohio, and Iowa.

Use of Central States Walnut by Domestic Mills up 20 Percent

About 22 million board feet of walnut veneer logs were harvested from the region in 1963 and shipped to mills in the United States. This was 3.7 million board feet (20 percent) more than in 1960. Walnut accounted for 39 percent of the

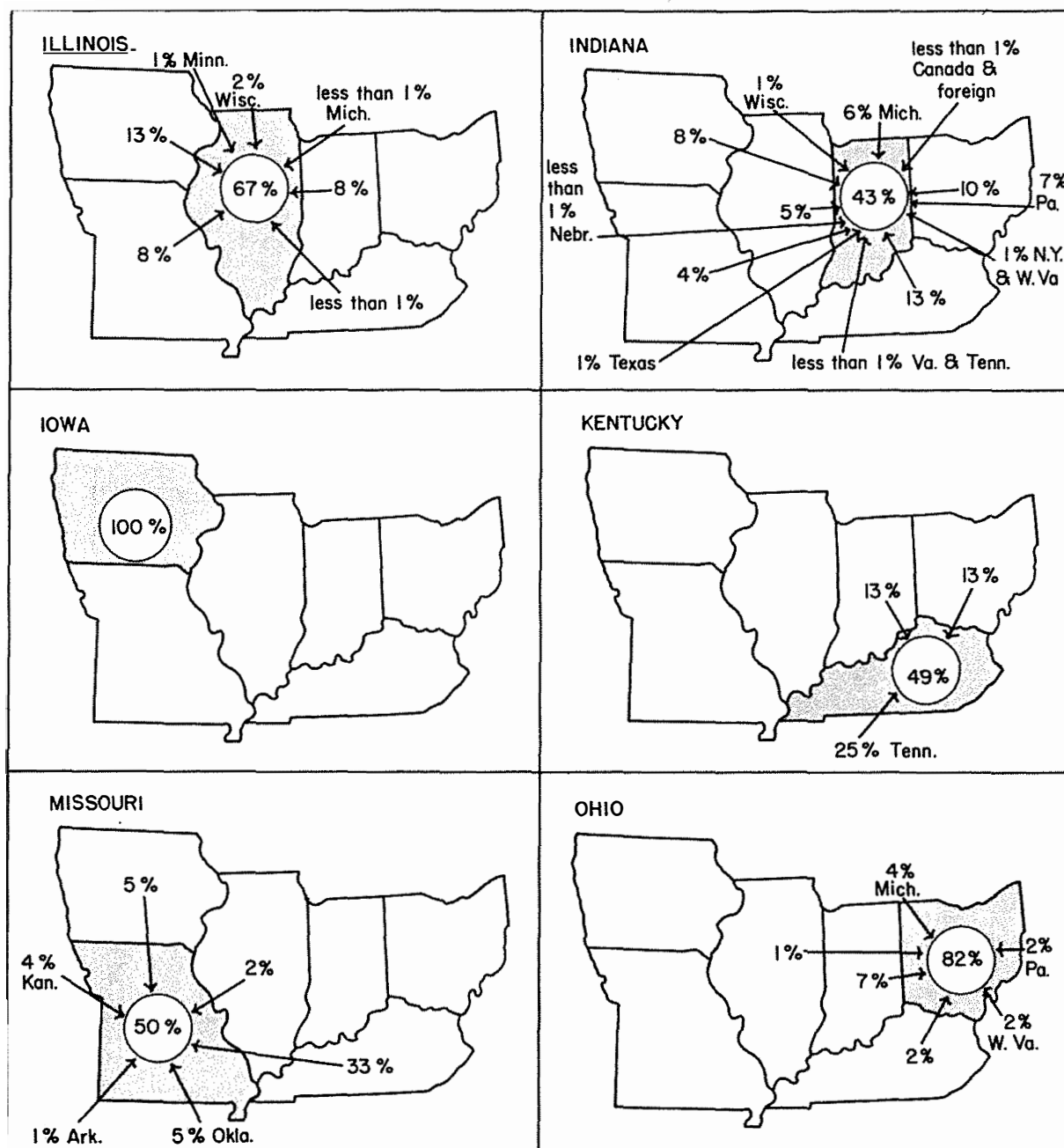


FIGURE 2.--Source of veneer-logs and bolts consumed by Central States mills, 1963.

total harvest from the region for domestic use in 1963 compared with 31 percent in 1960.

The domestic use of Central States oak, cherry, and beech veneer logs declined significantly. So did that of soft-textured hardwoods such as cottonwood, elm, and sycamore, which are used primarily in the manufacture of container veneers. But, the use of Central States hickory, yellow-poplar, and butternut increased significantly.

A Sharp Increase in Walnut Log Exports

The volume and origin of walnut veneer logs leaving the Central States for foreign ports is unknown. However, reports by the Department of Commerce show that exports of walnut logs, bolts, and hewn timber from the United States as a whole have risen steadily from approximately 1 million board feet in 1955 to nearly 16 million board feet in 1963. No doubt, most of these exports were veneer-quality logs and we estimate that 60 to 80 percent of the walnut veneer logs exported annually are cut from Central States forests.

Because of increased foreign and domestic use, the annual cut of veneer-quality walnut now exceeds the annual growth. Fearing that this unfavorable balance would soon lead to severe shortages of high-quality walnut, the Department of Commerce established quotas on walnut exports. At the same time United States veneer mills were asked to reduce their consumption. Most of the major walnut-using mills have now agreed to a revision in the commodity standards for hardwood plywood to provide for use of thinner face veneers.

David A. Gansner, research forester
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